

FWP R2 CAC Meeting

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 20, 2018
LOCATION: FWP Region 2 office (3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula)
TIME: 6-9:30 p.m.

In Attendance

Members: John Allendorf, Jane Bennett, Louie Bouma, Steve Clevidence, Marc Cooke, Robert Edwards, Laurie Johnston, Denley Loge, Bill Mitchell, Jim Olson, Tom Puchlerz, Mike Schmitt

Staff: Randy Arnold, Vivaca Crowser, Chet Crowser, Molly Locati, Pat Saffel, Dori Schiele, Mike Thompson

Guests: Beth Shumate, FWP's new State Parks Division Administrator; Pat Doyle, State Parks Marketing and Communications Manager; Commissioner, Tim Aldrich

Welcome & introductions

Vivaca Crowser welcomed all in attendance; Randy Arnold gave a special welcome and introduction to our guests, Beth Shumate & Pat Doyle, visiting from Helena.

Montana State Parks Programs and Funding

Beth Shumate, FWP new Division Administrator, told CAC members that Montana State Parks is currently in a transition stage with new programs and groups, changes in personnel and new opportunities. Pat Doyle gave a presentation on many of the parks programs and groups: **Parks in Focus; Parks and Recreation Board; Montana State Park Foundation.** Pat also shared many ways MT State Parks has been creative in their advertising strategies over the past few years; using **Facebook** and inserts in magazines, with articles written on 15 different Montana State Parks. Parks has been successful in coming up with many innovative ways to advertise on a very minimal budget. Pat also spoke about the success of the **AmeriCorps** program and showed a short video about it.

CAC Member Led Discussion Topic

CAC Members wrote topic ideas for discussion and dropped them into a basket as they arrived at the meeting. Later at various times during the meeting Vivaca drew topics from the basket. The first topic was:

The Stevensville Fishing Access Site (FAS). The FAS has been reopened to the public, and the private land that is part of the access is under new ownership. FWP sent out a news release announcing this good news a few weeks ago.

Wildlife Update

Mike Thompson gave an update, briefly touching on the season setting process and what resulted, after the Fish and Wildlife Commission made final decisions last week. He then used HD215 as his area of focus, giving examples of the elk population on Spotted Dog and the harvest strategy for 2018. Mike also shared some information about the new elk B license for private land in region 2 that was approved by the Commission last week.

CAC-member Recruitment

Region 2 will start taking applications for new members in June; stay tuned for more information and a news release.

Meeting adjourned and next quarterly meeting TBD.